

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-07 SSO-00 INRE-00 PRS-01 /021 W

-----092472 031357Z /41

O 031305Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4354

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 4025

FOR EUR/NE AND INR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, NO

SUBJECT: ALLEGATION OF ONGOING CIA ACTIVITIES IN NORWAY

1. LEFTIST SOCIALIST (SV) LEADER BERGE FURRE USED HIS ALLOTTED CAMPAIGN TELEVISION TIME ON SEPTEMBER 2 TO LAUNCH ACCUSATIONS OF ONGOING NORWEGIAN INVOLVEMENT WITH CIA ACTIVITIES IN NORWAY.

2. FURRE ASSERTED THAT CIA OPERATES LISTENING INSTALLATIONS ON NORWEGIAN SOIL MANNED BY AMERICANS AND NORWEGIANS TRAINED IN THE U.S. FURRE EXPRESSING SHOCK AT THIS INFORMATION, TOLD THE AUDIENCE THAT HE HAD WRITTEN TO THE DEFENSE MINISTER FOR AN EXPLANATION ABOUT THE SUBJECT.

3. IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE A CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED FOLLOW-UP EFFORT, OSLO DAILY "DAGBLADET" ON SEPTEMBER 3, CARRIED A LONG INTERVIEW, MARCHETTI ALSO STATED THAT CIA WAS RUNNING AND MANNING LISTENING STATIONS IN NORWAY. HE SAID THAT AT ANY GIVEN TIME, THERE WAS THREE TO NINE CIA EMPLOYEES IN NORWAY AND A DOZEN OR SO FROM NSA. HE SAID THAT CIA PEOPLE WERE ASSIGNED TO NORWAY FOR PERIODS OF TWO TO FOUR YEARS.

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4. MARCHETTI ALLEGED THAT THE CIA AND THE NORWEGIAN AUTHORITIES WORKED TOGETHER AT THE STATIONS; THAT THERE WERE CLANDESTINE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUCH ACTIVITIES AND THAT THE WORK TOOK PLACE UNDER TERMS OF SECRET AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE CIA AND NORWAY, WHICH HAD NOT BEEN SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION BY THE U.S. SENATE AS REQUIRED BY LAW.

5. MARCHETTI, IN THE INTERVIEW, ALSO ALLUDED TO FORMER SECRET OPERATIONS AGAINST THE USSR OPERATED OUT OF FINLAND WITH NORWEGIAN COOPERATION.

6. MARCHETTI ALSO NOTED THAT THE GON HAD BEEN AMONG THOSE WHO HAD TRIED TO CENSOR HIS BOOK.

7. IN REPLY, NORWEGIAN CHIEF OF DEFENSE WAMRE HAS SAID THAT THERE ARE NO CIA PERSONNEL AT NORWEGIAN STATIONS. DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER HOLST HAS REFUSED COMMENT ON FURRE'S LETTER UNTIL HE HAS HAD A CHANCE TO STUDY IT.

8. LOCAL DAILY PAPER VERDENS GANG REPORTS SEPTEMBER 3 THAT NO ONE AT THE CIA IN WASHINGTON WOULD COMMENT ON FURRE'S ALLEGATIONS.

9. COMMENT: IF ASKED BY THE PRESS FOR COMMENTS ON THE FURRE AND MARCHETTI ALLEGATIONS, EMBASSY INTENDS TO STATE THAT WE, AS A MATTER OF POLICY, DO NOT COMMENT ON THIS TYPE OF STORY. IF PRESSED, WE WILL REFER FURTHER INQUIRIES TO WASHINGTON.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY, ALLEGATIONS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OSLO04025
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770320-0302
Format: TEL
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770999/aaaadfkq.tel
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1391456
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEGATION OF ONGOING CIA ACTIVITIES IN NORWAY
TAGS: PINR, NO, US, CIA, (FURRE, BERGE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f245fb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009